Docket No.: 50212-536 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Yoshiki NISHIBAYASHI, et al.

Confirmation Number: 7842

Serial No.: 10/660,633

Group Art Unit: 2879

Filed: September 12, 2003

Examiner: To be Assigned

For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the document be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the document be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevance of Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2001-266736 is discussed in the present specification.

10/660,633

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 15, 2004

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.